

# MRS. HALL CHEERS BROTHER IN JAIL; BRAVES LEERING CROWD WITH LAUGH

## Lunches at Hotel, Then Plays Bridge With Accused Kin

By LEO J. CASEY  
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SOMERVILLE, N. J., Sept. 28.—Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall emerged from seclusion to face a curious world today.

Her action was doubtless advised by her attorneys, three of whom lunched with her in the little dining room of the Hotel Somerset here.

But it was typical of Mrs. Hall that she chose as the occasion a visit to her less fortunate brother, Willie Stevens, who, with his cousin, Henry De La Bruyere Carpenter, awaits in county jail his trial for the double murder of which she also stands accused.

Shortly after 10 o'clock this morning, while Inspector Underwood was announcing the state



Mrs. Frances Hall Willie Stevens

was on the trail of a second eye-witness to the killing four years ago, the Hall car drew up before the grim jail building and Mrs. Hall got out, carrying a bridge table and a basket of fruit.

A few minutes later Timothy Pfeiffer of defense counsel entered the prison. Before noon Augustus Struder and Nathaniel Palzer, also members of the wealthy widow's legal staff, joined the group.

Noon found a crowd of reporters, cameramen and townsfolk gathered on the Court House lawn in a drizzling rain, waiting for the woman whose connection with the most sensational murder mystery in a decade made her a national figure.

As Mrs. Hall, accompanied by Pfeiffer, Palzer, and Struder, came out on the steps the photographers flash guns boomed.

The widow smiled a smile which grew into a laugh as she turned to jest with Pfeiffer.

### Walker to Hotel

Instead of getting into her car for the return journey to New Brunswick, Mrs. Hall and her escort continued across the street to the nearby Somerset Hotel, apparently oblivious of the reporters who ran alongside, hopefully asking questions, and of the murmur: "There she is," which went up from gaping residents of this little town.

As the widow and her attorneys passed into the hotel, there could be heard distinctly, above the noise of the radio, the voice of a reporter in an adjacent telephone booth:—

"Sure—" he was saying—"they've got a man who SAW Mrs. Hall at the scene of the murder."

### Gave No Sign

If Mrs. Hall heard—and there can be little doubt she did—she gave no sign.

Instead, she turned to the little group around her and remarked on the perfection of the radio reception.

"Isn't it nice that we are to have music while we lunch?" she said. "I think that is wonderful reception."

Again, as she entered the dining

(Continued on Page 11)

## Priests Visit Hall Suspects in Jail



ABOVE ARE SEEN the Rev. J. Merwin Pettit (left), and the Rev. Herbert Hawkins, of the Order of the Holy Cross, leaving the Somerset county jail in Somerville, N. J., where they called upon Willie Stevens and Henry de la B. Carpenter, charged with complicity in the murder of the Rev. Edward W. Hall and his pretty choir singer, Mrs. Eleanor Mills.

## Senator Goff May Be First Daugherty Defense Witness

The government's parade of witnesses in the Daugherty-Miller conspiracy trial came to an end today after three weeks of steady plodding through United States Attorney Buckner's intricate drama by which he hopes to send Harry M. Daugherty, former attorney general, and Col. Thomas W. Miller, ex-alien property custodian, to Atlanta.

Aside from reading a few documents to the jury, the case is complete, and Max D. Steuer, counsel for Daugherty, and Col. William Rand, representing Miller, await word to release their flood of motions.

Richard Merton, German financier, who says he paid \$441,000 to the late John T. King for the return of the \$7,000,000 assets of the American Metals Company, came

deal gave rise to speculation today that the senator will be one of the first defense witnesses.

Another important figure in the case, excused from the trial a week ago, was back in court today. He is John Durkin, secretary to the late John T. King. He may be called by the defense also.



H. M. Daugherty T. W. Miller

back as the chief witness today and rounded out his sixth day of testimony.

Col. Rand questioned Merton carefully as to conversations he had with R. E. Williams, assistant to Miller, before he applied for the return of the assets. Merton maintained that while Williams gave him worthwhile information, he used his own judgment in preparing the application.

The fact that Merton was inclined to hesitate in stating that he never had had an interview with Senator Guy D. Goff of West Virginia about the American Metals

## Millionaire Realtor Hurt In Triple Auto Collision

Joseph N. Neef, 156 Maple St., Brooklyn, a millionaire real estate operator and president of the National Bank of Flatbush, is in a serious condition in Midwood Sanitarium today as a result of injuries sustained in a triple collision this morning at Caton Avenue and St. Paul's Place. His wife, Ethel, who was driving the Neef auto and who suffered bruises and lacerations, is also a patient in the sanitarium.

### BULLETIN

VENTURA, CAL., Sept. 28 (By U. P.).—This city was shaken by a distinct earth tremor at 9.50 a. m. today. The shock was severe enough to shake buildings, but was of short duration, and there was no damage.

## Nab 3 on Charge Of Extortion for 'Love Nest' Fund

Here is a new way to furnish a "love nest," police say.

Charged with attempting to collect \$1,000 from Jacob Frisch, wealthy dress manufacturer, with a plant at 352 7th Ave., a youth, his fiancée, and a married woman were to be arraigned in West Side Court today.

Frisch claimed they threatened to "expose him" if he did not pay them, at first \$5,000, which amount was reduced to \$1,000.

Those held are Anthony Saladino, 21, of 75 Meserole St., Brooklyn; his fiancée, Bridget Ponti, 19, 1336 43d St., Brooklyn, employed by Frisch for three years, and Anna Marrone, 20, of 72 Throop Ave., Brooklyn. The first two are charged with extortion. The latter with acting in concert.

Miss Ponti left Frisch's employ seven weeks ago during a strike. The trio returned Saturday. They demanded \$5,000, he said. He told them to return yesterday and communicated with the police.

He managed to reduce the amount to \$1,000 and gave a check to Saladino. Just as the latter put it in his pocket Detectives Carlson and Heidt of the West 30th Street station arrested all.

"I wanted to buy furniture for Bridget," he said, according to the police.

## BRITAIN NOT TO ASK NATIONS' AID IN CHINA

LONDON, Sept. 28 (By U. P.).—Great Britain will not seek joint international action to meet the situation in China, Premier Baldwin intimated today in the House of Commons when a questioner brought up the subject.



The British government was satisfied that the naval enforcements already en route, together with the forces now in China, would be adequate.

## HEALTH BUDGET TRIMMED TO TENTH OF SUM ASKED

Drastic cuts in the 1927 budget of the Board of Health have reduced it to a point where it is only \$155,083 more than for this year, it was announced today by Budget Director Charles L. Kohler.

The increase asked by Commissioner Harris was \$1,286,594.

Albert Meulin, 700 Ocean Ave., was driving south on St. Paul's Place when, at the intersection of Caton Avenue, he saw a truck driven by Joseph Mestor, 487 New York Ave., loom up ahead. Both drivers swerved to avoid collision and in doing so trapped the car driven by Mrs. Neef, bound west on Caton Avenue, between them, crushing it.

A patrolman summoned an ambulance from Kings County Hospital and after first aid treatment the injured couple were removed to the sanitarium, where it was said that Neef had probably suffered a fractured skull. Mestor and Meulin were not held, as witnesses declared the accident unavoidable.

## Asa G. Candler Dying, Says Doctor

ATLANTA, GA., Sept. 28 (By U. P.).—Asa G. Candler, multi-millionaire Coca-Cola king, is not expected by his physician to live more than thirty-six hours, according to a statement by a member of his family.

The aged financier suffered a severe stroke Sunday and his condition has continued to grow worse. He is 75. For two months he has been a patient in Wesley Memorial Hospital, which he founded.



## SUMMERALL NEW CHIEF OF ARMY GENERAL STAFF

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 (By U. P.).—Major-Gen. John L. Hines, retiring chief of staff, today was assigned to command the Ninth Corps Area, San Francisco, succeeding Major-Gen. James McRae, transferred to command the Sec-



ond Corps Area at New York, effective November 20.

Major-Gen. Charles P. Summerall, commanding the Second Corps Area, will become chief of staff.

## DEMOCRATS GO WET IN MASSACHUSETTS MEET

BOSTON, Sept. 28 (By U. P.).—Massachusetts Democrats, in convention here, agreed upon a "wet" plank which opposes the return of the saloon, but advocates repeal of the Volstead act and the Eighteenth Amendment, if necessary, to permit the enactment of laws for the sale of light wines and beer under regulated sale similar to the Quebec system.

## Clearing House (Official figures)

Exchanges ---- \$924,000,000  
Balances ---- 96,000,000  
Credit balance.. 83,000,000

## THE WEATHER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1926.



### U. S. WEATHER FORECAST

LOCAL—Showers and continued cool tonight and Wednesday; moderate to fresh northeast and east winds.  
EASTERN NEW YORK—Showers tonight and Wednesday; slowly rising temperature in the interior Wednesday; possibly fresh northeast and east winds.  
Hour. Temp. Weather. Barom. Wind.  
Midnight.. 55 Cloudy 30.26 E. 12  
7 a. m. 55 Cloudy 30.24 E. 10  
4 a. m. 55 Cloudy 30.22 E. 10  
6 a. m. 54 Cloudy 30.24 E. 12  
8 a. m. 55 Cloudy 30.26 E. 14  
10 a. m. 55 Cloudy 30.27 E. 17